GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2658
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2016
Extinction of Saraswati River
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Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any project is currently going on for the revival of the ancient river Saraswati;

(b) if so, the details thereof and allocated funds for the project;

(c) whether tests have been done so far by collecting samples from the revival sites of the projects and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any feasibility studies have been conducted or report prepared so far regarding the fact that the revival of Saraswati river can help in recharging the ground water, developing eco-tourism and maintaining ecological balance; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE, CULTURE AND TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) AND MINISTER OF STATE, CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) No, Madam. No such project has been taken up by the Archaeological Survey of India.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) & (e) No, Madam. Several studies including explorations and excavations have been carried out both by the Governmental and non-governmental organizations along the palaeochannel, represented today by the Ghaggar river in Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat. Some researchers have ascribed this palaeochannel to the Sarasati river mentioned in Ancient Indian Literature, but no scientific evidence to establish this correlation exists.